

# INSIDE CORRECTIONS

Official Newsletter  
of the Kentucky Department  
of Corrections



John D. Rees  
Commissioner

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## DOC Has Record-Breaking KECC Campaign

By Lisa Lamb  
Director of Communications

WOW! That one word sums up the overall 2007 KECC Campaign this year, the Justice & Public Safety Cabinet's 2007 effort (the first time we topped the \$200,000 mark EVER) and our own Department's performance.

At the KECC Victory Celebration on Nov. 1, the Department of Corrections received special recognition, an award they called the "WOW" award to demonstrate what an outstanding job our agency has done.

The Department of Corrections raised just shy of \$100,000 for the 2007 campaign - that's more than double the figure for last year's contributions and nearly double our goal.

Accepting our award was KECC Coordinator for DOC, Tammy Lou Haynes. Haynes was also honored two weeks ago by Corrections Commissioner John D. Rees for her efforts in connection with the KECC campaign.

The Justice & Public Safety Cabinet received an achievement award at the Victory Celebration for exceeding our cabinet's goal by 36%. We had an increase over last year of 46%.

The best news - we met the overall goal of \$1.5M!



MG Donald C. Storm, 2007 KECC Chair, presented the Department of Corrections with an award for the agency's efforts in this year's campaign. Accepting the award was the DOC's campaign coordinator, Tammy Lou Haynes.

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Little Sandy Deputy Warden Lenn Neal (left) is presented a letter and check from the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation. The organization showed their support for Neal and his family as a result of the tragic loss of their son, Jereme, who was killed in a hunting accident in September. LSCC Warden Joe Meko made the presentation to Neal.

## Stint Working for Ky DOC Leaves Indelible Impression

To the editor:

For the past year-and-a half it was my honor and pleasure to work for the Department of Corrections in the capacity of food service director with an outside contractor. During this time I have gained a great respect for the men and women of the DOC and the thankless task that befalls them. We often hear of the service performed by police officers, firefighters and paramedics; and rightly so. However it seems that the only time we hear about the officers in the DOC is in the rare case of either an escape or where a mistake has been made.

These men and women perform a thankless job 24/7 under often trying conditions. Their pay is low compared to other professionals in law enforcement; they are often understaffed due to a high turnover. The ones that stay I have found do so out of a sense and spirit of commitment, duty, honor, and service to community and country. They go through an academy before starting as well as rigorous continuing education and on-the-job training yearly to ensure their ability to perform their tasks.

And what do they receive for this, to be called guard instead of the title of officer that they deserve? How often do we hear about the good work that they perform every day, keeping society, other staff members and inmates safe from those that we in society have deemed too dangerous to walk among us and in need of rehabilitation? They walk through an institution with as many as 1,000 to 2,000 convicted felons with no weapons to carry but their intelligence, courage, and sense of duty. Only supervisors holding the rank of sergeant or above can even carry handcuffs.

I no longer work with the DOC, however, I leave with a great sense of respect and admiration for these people. They truly exemplify the Department of Corrections motto: firm, fair and consistent.

**Eric Patten**  
Shelbyville

*(Editor's Note: This letter originally appeared as a "letter to the editor" in the Oldham Era newspaper. When contacted, Mr. Patten agreed for it to appear here in our Corrections newsletter. During Patten's time at Roederer Correctional Complex, the problems with the Food Service Department were reduced to a minimal. He helped reduce inmate and staff complaints dramatically, and helped changed the way staff and inmates perceived Aramark. He left Aramark to pursue his life long ambition of helping troubled youths and is currently working at the Whitney M. Young Job Corps teaching culinary skills to the students.)*

## Leadership Ky. Visits KSP

On October 11th, The Kentucky State Reformatory hosted approximately 50 visitors who were part of Leadership Kentucky. These Kentuckians come from all walks of business and county or state government. They toured the institution and received an overview to the Kentucky State Penitentiary operations.

Guest speakers were Honorable Bill Cunningham, Supreme Court Justice for Kentucky and Kentucky's Juvenile Justice Systems Deputy Commissioner Dale Liechty.

This day of education gives us another voice in state government addressing the needs of staff and our institutions. All the visitors were very complementary of our staff, sanitation and overall operations of our institution.

As a current member of the Leadership Kentucky Program, Deputy Commissioner LaDonna Thompson has been very proud to represent the Department of Corrections. She described the visit to KSP.

"I have been a member of this program since May and during all the previous monthly visits, the members of the current

Please See LEADERSHIP, Page 7

## Commissioner's Corner



**John D. Rees**

As you walked with your child through your neighborhood this Halloween for trick-or-treating, or attended any of many fun-filled activities that surrounded our most recent holiday, I wonder if you stopped even for a second and thought about our Kentucky soldiers, the men and women, fighting in a war so far from home.

Those same men and women would have probably given

anything to hold their child's hand or attend a party with family and friends.

Now, as we're approaching this country's two bigger holidays that center around family, Thanksgiving and Christmas, I want you to stop for a moment and think about these soldiers ... soldiers that won't be home for the turkey dinners or any of Mom's special desserts. While these soldiers are fighting thousands of miles from home on battlefronts that you and I can only imagine, we are enjoying the comforts and freedoms, not just on the holidays, but each and every day as American citizens.

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## KSR Marks 25th Anniversary of Accreditation

**By Colleen D. Mattheu  
KSR Procedures Officer**

### *Twenty-Five Years of Accreditation*

**Statement of Purpose – 1982:**  
The mission of the Kentucky State Reformatory is to promote public safety by separating convicted felons from the community and by preparing the incarcerated felons to be fully functioning persons capable of contributing in a constructive way to society.

**Mission Statement – 2007:**  
We are committed to the protection of: Public Safety-Staff Safety-Inmate Safety. We are committed to preparing inmates to return to society by mending: Minds-Bodies-Spirits. We will accomplish our mission by adhering to these core values: Discipline-Respect-Fairness-Accountability-Learning-Teamwork. We understand that public safety truly begins when the inmate is released.

In October 1982 under the leadership of George W. Wilson, Secretary and Warden John D. Rees, the Kentucky State Reformatory was audited for the first time. At the time of the 1982 audit a description of the physical plant stated: “with the exception of a few additional buildings and alterations necessitated by technological advancement, the plant remains almost exactly as it was originally planned.”

During the ninth audit cycle in 2006 under the leadership of Commissioner John D. Rees and Warden Larry Chandler the description of the physical plant was: “today the 2,000 bed institution

serves as the states primary housing unit for inmates in need of intensive medical or mental health treatment... operates a correctional industry complex...a full offering of vocational and aca-

demic (including college) classes...the Kentucky State Reformatory is truly a multi-faceted institution. In addition to these specialties, they have “normal” operational concerns of security, maintenance, recreation, religion and the myriad of problems associated with the operation of a facility this size.”

The audit process has evolved throughout the 25 years and so has the ability of the staff of KSR to step up and meet the challenge.

The 1982 audit report gave KSR a score of 94.1% compliance in mandatory standards and 95% compliance in non-mandatory standards.

In 2006 KSR received the highest score possible for the institution, 100% compliance mandatory standards and 99.7% compliance non-mandatory.

#### **Facts of Interest:**

- There have been five wardens during the 25-year audit cycle.

- 1982 inmate population was 1,424 and in 2006 the population was 1,910.

- Staffing in 1982 was 515 and in 2006 the grand total of staff (state and agency) was 671.5.

- KSR was the third prison built in Kentucky following the establishment of a penal system by Kentucky's Legislature in 1798.

- Construction of KSR began in March 1937 and was completed in October 1939.

## History in the making

**By Lisa Lamb  
Director of Communications**

When the Kentucky State Reformatory attained that coveted accreditation in 1982 it was under the leadership of Warden John D. Rees. Twenty-five years and more than 100 audits later, all of Kentucky's prisons are accredited and that same man leads the entire state correctional system in the Commonwealth. Under his direction as Commissioner, the state Division of Probation & Parole became an accredited part of the organization for the first time.

Kentucky has long seen the importance of accreditation. It was used as the mechanism to improve the operation of the Kentucky State Reformatory and the Kentucky State Penitentiary and bring those facilities into compliance with a federal consent decree that was entered into as a result of an inmate lawsuit that attacked the total conditions of confinement.

Over the last 25 years, those two institutions have not only maintained their accreditation but accreditation has been achieved at the state's 11 other prisons and now our 19 Probation & Parole Districts as well.

Today the prison is led by Larry Chandler - who coincidentally is beginning the 25th year of his esteemed Corrections career. And where did Chandler, a nominee for the national “2007 Warden of the Year” honor, begin that career? Working for Warden Rees ... in 1982 ...

So when members of “Team KSR” celebrated the 25th Accreditation anniversary in October 2007 it was a momentous event in the history of not only their institution, but Kentucky Corrections history as well: the first accreditation of a state prison and the beginning our agency's road to full accreditation.



**John D. Rees**



**Larry Chandler**



John Rees in 1981 with then Commissioner George Wilson.

***“I have always believed in and supported the American Correctional Association. There have been many changes during the past 25 years and I’m proud to say that the Kentucky State Reformatory has moved forward with solid leadership and guidance from ACA.”***

**John D. Rees**

**2007 Kentucky Department of Corrections Commissioner  
&**

**1982 Warden of the Kentucky State Reformatory:  
the year KSR became the first prison in the state  
to receive ACA accreditation**



Today, the Kentucky State Reformatory houses approximately 2,000 inmates and serves as the state’s primary housing unit for inmates in need of intensive medical services and mental health treatment. The institution consists of 12 dormitories, a Special Management Unit (cellblock) and a 150-bed Correctional Psychiatric Treatment Unit. The Kentucky State Reformatory is divided into five (5) distinct living units that operate under the Unit Management Concept. This means that each unit has a team of program, security, and in some cases psychological, medical and recreation staff, that work together to effectively manage each segment of the inmate population.



## *EKCC Employees Follow Simple Rule:*

# It's Better To Give Than to Receive

**By Kathy Litteral**  
**EKCC Deputy Warden**

Danny Thomas, famous entertainer and founder of the St Jude Children's Research Hospital in Memphis, Tenn., once said, "Success is not built on what we accomplish for ourselves. Its foundation lies in what we do for others."

This is most obvious at Eastern Kentucky Correctional Complex where charitable work is an everyday occurrence.

EKCC's Education Department (KCTCS) used scrap lumber and crafted a beautiful Sofa Table in our Carpentry Class to give away with a drawing.

Peppermint candy was sold and the buyer could put their name in on the Sofa Table which was placed on display in the lobby for all to admire. The money raised was given to former and long time officer at EKCC, Gary Blair.

Gary was working at Little Sandy Correctional Complex as a training coordinator at the time of his cancer diagnosis. This fundraiser was in conjunction with LSCC. Gary later lost his battle with cancer but the opportunity for staff to give to a friend was not wasted.

Kentucky Correctional Industries got into the act with a Hope Chest. The same



The women pictured above, employees at Eastern Kentucky Correctional Complex, wore blue bandannas to show support for fellow employees that were undergoing cancer treatment.

scenario was used and the money raised was for two EKCC employees, Marshia Patrick, Administrative Secretary and

Esther Jones, Office Support Assistant II.

Both employees were going through

**Please See GIVE, Page 7**

## Corner

**From Page 2**

Taking ourselves out of our comfort zones to think of these soldiers – and then hopefully wanting to do something to make their holidays a little nicer - doesn't have a single thing to do with how you feel about this war in principle.

**THIS** effort is about these men

and women, these Kentucky soldiers whose lives are on the line each and every day while we worry in the grocery line about whether we remembered the right toothpaste our kids wanted.

Right now the Department of Corrections is collecting donations in an effort to send the 600 men and women serving in the Kentucky National and Air Guard that are deployed to Afghanistan and Iraq a very special "Kentucky" Christmas package.

We are asking for monetary donations to purchase gifts that are representative of our Commonwealth, such as t-shirts, hats or pens with a Kentucky logo. In addition the funds will be used to mail the gift bags to our soldiers. If you want to get involved, the information is on page 12 and there are project coordinators at each of the institutions and throughout the Department.

The deadline for contributions is Nov. 16.





A group of nine Albanian judicial and law enforcement officials toured the Kentucky State Reformatory recently as part of the International Visitor Leadership Program. The group spent almost a week in Kentucky visiting with their criminal justice counterparts in America.



## *Albanian Leadership Tour Includes Visit to KSR*

Nine Albanian judicial and law enforcement officials, along with 3 interpreters, toured the Kentucky State Reformatory in early October as part of a The International Visitor Leadership Program. In addition to KSR, during the group's nearly weeklong stay in the Louisville area, they visited with Jefferson Circuit and District Court officials — judges, prosecutors, and defense attorneys, the Louisville Metro Police Department, and at the U of L Brandeis School of Law. The program brings participants to the United States from all over the world each year to meet and confer with their professional counterparts and to experience the U.S. firsthand. The visitors, who are current or potential leaders in government, politics, the media, education, and other fields, are selected by American officials overseas. More than 200 current and former Heads of State, 1,500 cabinet-level ministers, and many other distinguished world leaders in government and the private sector have participated in the International Visitor Leadership Program.

## Leadership

From Page 2

class expressed that they were absolutely looking forward to the KSP tour.

There were a few with understandable fears, but almost everyone was able to make the visit to the facility. For months prior to our visit, many graduates from the program visited us and told the group that the prison tour was one of the most impacting sessions in which they had participated.

Therefore, there was certainly a buildup for the visit, but I was positive the current KSP staff would make this trip as meaningful to this class as the previous class members had described. I must say that I was certainly more than impressed by the staff at KSP and the great representation they made for the Department

as a whole. Everyone should be proud, as they made great representatives for ALL of DOC by presenting the professionalism, courtesy, and work ethic that is displayed at all of our facilities and districts.

I would like to extend my thanks to the many staff who headed the tours and gave such great information to the Program, especially Warden Tom Simpson, Deputy Warden Alan Brown, and Deputy Warden Rick Pershing. Warden Simpson gave a very informative presentation, and many of the Leadership class members were moved to promise to write their Representatives and Senators on behalf of staff salaries. They truly got a feel for what a tough job staff handles and they left with a much well-deserved impression of what a fine staff the Department has been fortunate enough to compile."



**HKO Fall Festival at MAC**

The annual Human Kindness Organization Fall Festival was held recently at Marion Adjustment Center. The festival was lead by Staff Advisor Jessica Wade, the board of inmates from the organization, as well as the 103 members of the organization. Media covered the day-long activities which involved bringing in handicapped individuals from Marion, Taylor, Meade and Washington County. Each handicapped individual was paired with an inmate for the day and they enjoyed fun, music, dancing, games and food. Each participant left with a shirt, a sun visor and a bag with the words "HKO Fall Festival 2007" printed on them. It was a great day for everyone involved including MAC staff that participated and oversaw the event.

## GIVE

From Page 5

cancer treatments at the time. Also, four Ponderosa meals were donated and the money raised through that project was for Ms. Patrick and Ms. Jones.

EKCC staff has held two different benefits for staff. These were all day Saturday events, with baked goods and donated items for sale with musical entertainment for those in attendance. One benefit was for Captain Jack Gibbs and the other for Ms. Patrick and Jones. Captain Gibbs later lost his battle with pancreatitis, but again the opportunity to give was not wasted. Employees at EKCC most recently have held hot dog luncheons with homemade hot dog sauce, chips and drink for Ms. Patrick and Jones.

While money helps in all situations, there can be no better support than the moral support offered by the women of EKCC to their co-workers that were going through treatments for cancer.

During the time Marshia Patrick was taking chemotherapy, continuing to work and deal with the loss of her hair, the women photographed in the picture included with this story donned "support breast cancer awareness" bandannas and wore them to

*While money helps in all situations, there can be no better support than the moral support offered by the women of EKCC to their co-workers that were going through treatments for cancer.*

**Deputy Warden Kathy Litteral  
Eastern Kentucky Correctional Complex**

work. The bandannas were donated by a local Ford car dealership.

The picture on page 2, taken on the front steps of the institution, shows the level of support our employees have for each other. Four months after this photo was taken Esther Jones (fourth row left) was diagnosed with breast cancer. Ms. Jones went through chemotherapy and radiation and now, I am happy to report, is cancer free. Ms. Patrick (front row center), finished her last antibodies treatment on October 17.

EKCC truly believes that the foundation of success is what we do for others!





Kentucky Correctional Institution for Women Deputy Warden Janet Conover and daughter Allie.



DOC Grants Administrator Brigid Adams at the KCCD Halloween Party at St. Joseph's Children's Home.

## *Halloween Fun*

*Corrections is often one of the most stress-filled jobs in the world ... so it helps to let our hair down (or don a mask or Groucho Marx fake nose if you choose) and enjoy ourselves from time to time. And in some cases, we even have an awesome reason for doing it like KCCD's Halloween Party for the kids at St. Joseph's Children's Home in Louisville.*

*(Photos on page 8 & 9 are from the KCCD party and the CRTC Fall Festival.)*



Deputy Commissioner LaDonna Thompson and son Christian.





## *Fall Family Fun!*

Above, Deputy Commissioner LaDonna Thompson looks as if she's taking her military costume "very seriously" as she gives directions for the pumpkin painting! Below, Kentucky State Reformatory Deputy Warden Pete Oldam and his family enjoyed the CRTC Fall Festival. Oldam is pictured with wife Colleen, son Kyle, daughter Christin and a friend of the family, B.J. At right, Melissa Perkinson gives up the paint brush during the Fall Festival. Bottom right: Levi Johnson (Tammy Lou Haynes' son) found a four-legged friend during the KCCD Halloween Party for St. Joseph's Children Home: one of the Paws with Purpose dogs.





## DOC Conducts Videoconferencing with Local Jails



*“Security is a key element of the mission of the DOC; lowering the number of inmate transports just makes sense for the safety of the citizens of the Commonwealth.”*

**Commissioner John D. Rees**

IT Supervisor Susie Hammond presented Shelby County Jailer Bobby Waits and his staff with a letter of appreciation and a Commissioner’s Coin in recognition of their efforts in connection with the new videoconferencing project. Pictured left to right: County Judge Executive, Rob Rothenburger, Corrections Officer, Paul Wallis and Jailer Bobby Waits.

### **By Susie Hammond** **Information Systems Supervisor**

The Kentucky Department of Corrections has begun contacting local jails to enlist their assistance with cutting down on inmate transports across the state by having inmates seen via videoconference as opposed to face to face.

Local jails and detention centers that currently have videoconferencing equip-

ment at their facilities are joining a cooperative effort between the Department of Corrections and their local facility to conduct some parole hearings, where appropriate, by videoconferencing rather than transporting inmates to a DOC institution for their session.

Although a new facility, opened in February 2007, one of the first facilities to join the new initiative was the Shelby

County Detention Center.

Jailer Bobby Waits and Officer Paul Wallis were quick to see the many benefits for both DOC and the Shelby County Detention Center and volunteered to test with DOC.

This joint effort will, potentially, save the Commonwealth thousands of dollars currently allocated for transporting inmates across the state.

Support our troops by contributing to the DOC  
Holiday 2007 campaign  
“All Things Kentucky”



## Murals Changing the View at Luther Luckett

By Charlene Hoke  
LLCC Procedures Officer

Art is truly in the eye of the beholder at Luther Luckett Correctional Complex (LLCC).

The stark white walls are being transformed into works of art that will provide years of enjoyment for visitors, staff and inmates.

For those of us who have had the opportunity to visit inside a prison, we all know how sterile and barren they can sometimes appear. Warden Tom Dailey developed a concept where inmates could utilize their talents; soften the harsh appearance of white walls while channeling energy of incarcerated men in a constructive manner.

Dailey's idea was to have members of the inmate population create a mural on the side of a building. With the assistance of Chaplain Marc Wessels a local artist was found, Carole Jackson-Powell.

Jackson-Powell uses alternative methods to create wall murals. She paints residential and commercial projects and recently she was awarded the "Best of Show in the Lebanon Junction Art Festival."

Jackson-Powell was contacted to see if she had any interest in taking on a project of this magnitude. In the fall of 2006 she attended the "Festival of Faiths" that was held at LLCC and was familiar with the institution. In addition, she had done volunteer work in the "Wells Unit" at



Kentucky artist Carole Jackson-Powell works with inmates at Luther Luckett Correctional Complex to turn plain white walls into works of art. Below, the first mural created by the inmates and Jackson-Powell. Above, they work on their newest mural, a cityscape.



a maximum security prison in Huntsville, Texas and had been thinking of volunteering for a prison ministry program but wasn't sure in what capacity she could best serve.

Jackson-Powell is now teaching inmates how to paint murals. She shares the knowledge of different artistic techniques that can be used to turn a wall into a work of art. She donates her time to the project

and sees it as an opportunity to give back to society.

"There is talent here and I want to give these guys an opportunity to learn something they can use when they get out," she said.

The first project Jackson-Powell and her new art students completed was a mural using a technique with rags and sponges.

Their second project is being

painted with brushes and rollers.

A small brush is used for the fine details in both murals.

When Warden Dailey was asked about additional art work he said, "There may be some future projects. The atmosphere created by the murals has been positive.

"It provides a calming effect on the inmate population."

## 2007 Holiday Gift Project

The holiday season is fast approaching and there are several individuals from right here in Kentucky that will NOT be spending the holidays with family friends.

These are the 600 men and women serving in the Kentucky National and Air Guard that are deployed to Afghanistan and Iraq. These men and women have made a choice to volunteer to protect you and your family.

### **To all employees of the Kentucky Department of Corrections:**

We invite you to join together to show our military men and women that we are thinking of them and we support their efforts.

We are asking for monetary donations to purchase gifts that are representative of home. Items such as stationary, pens, t-shirts and hats that will have a Kentucky logo. In addition the funds will be used to mail the gift bags to our soldiers. For those that wish to donate in the form of a check, an account has been established at Commonwealth Credit Union, so please make checks payable to "DOC Holiday 2007."

Please contact the project coordinator within your institution or office for additional information, or Cheryl Million at Central Office.

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